

Dear Honorable Members of the Children's Committee:

I am writing in SUPPORT of HB 6329, AAC Dissection Choice. I firmly believe that children should be given the chance of opting out of dissection and perform an alternative assignment. It is shameful to force a student to perform dissection in order to get a grade when alternatives are available. We should make the learning experience a pleasure and not stressful.

In addition, dissection is no longer necessary for preparation to attend any veterinary or medical school, as most schools have eliminated the use of animals in teaching. Dissection, as a tool, is archaic and cruel and should be replaced with alternatives, like computer programs which are readily available, and have been shown to help students grasp the learning objective better than those who dissect. Plus, they are less expensive, which interests me as a taxpayer and should our governments and school districts during these times of massive budget cuts.

We need to join the many other states that have adopted policies to allow students to opt-out, including Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Maine, Vermont, and New Jersey.

I am a registered voter who does vote and this is issue is very important to me. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Sherry Wernicke
55 Summit Road
Riverside, CT 06878